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A Funeral Address.

The following address was delivered by Rev. J. A. Rowe, at the funeral of Mrs. Dora B. McKeith, March 24, 1900:

Death always comes veiled in mystery and draped in sadness, but in the dispensation which has gathered us together here this afternoon, there are some elements of peculiar sorrow. A brief, bright earthly life, radiant while it lasted with sunshine and joy for all around; and, to human view full of promise for the future, has come to a close. The daughter and wife, after having reached that stage where the filial has been merged and exalted, has been removed from husband and parents' embrace, and a glory and gladness have gone out of the home. The holy scripture has emphasized the bitterness of the sorrow that is caused by the death of an only Son; but that has its parallel at least, if not its superior, in the grief that is occasioned by the removal of an only daughter and a devoted wife. I may not dwell on all that this loved one was to all in the household to which she belonged, lest in my well meant effort to administer consolation, I shall, after all, do little more than aggravate the grief which I desire to soothe. But as in this case, the magnitude of the loss is also, blessed be God, the measure of the consolation, it is meet that I shall say a word or two on her character and disposition.

Over and above the natural buoyancy of youth, there was in her the bright sparkle and lively disposition of mind, which was singularly quick in its apprehensions, and peculiarly active and alert in its movements. Hence it is that to day her loss is mourned with equal intensity by all to whom she was allied by that buoyancy to which I have referred, and by her old friends who found in her a ripeness of experience that was unusual in one of her age. As was expected, considering the household in which she was reared, she came early under the influence of the gospel of Christ, and connected herself publicly with the membership of the church. Her piety, however, was more pervasive in its influence over all her conduct, than given to express itself in any one form. She did not say much of it in words, but it spoke through her cheerfulness, her purity, her truthfulness and above all, through that affection which embraced all who loved the Lord Jesus Christ. In her last illness she spoke but little directly of her own religious experience. At first being slightly perplexed with the question, why she should have been so greatly afflicted, but she put the difficulty from her, and resigned herself entirely to the will of God. One saying of hers, in the closing of her illness, will be treasured by those who are dearest to her. She asked: "Papa, do you pray?" Being answered in the affirmative, she said: "You know we ought, for we are helpless." A question which shows how the cross that she was called to bear was raising her into closer fellowship with her Lord.

It is not unusual to speak and think of a death like this as premature, and of the life as unfinished. In our cemetery we often see a broken shaft over a young person's grave, as an emblem of this view of the case, and I will not deny that there is both poetry and pathos in the symbol. But after all, is not every human life, from one point of view, unfinished? Which of the sons of men has done all that he designed to do in life? The historian is called away, leaving his great work a fragment; the novelist is stricken down, leaving his tale half told; the artist is removed while yet the work on which he is engaged is only begun. There never was a finished life upon this earth, except one, and that was the life of One who was more than man, even Jesus Christ the incarnate God. We are stopped in our work, and at the best it is very far from finished work. But He fully filled in the ideal which He designed. In this respect therefore, the death of a young person does not materially differ from that of another, and a broken pillar may fitly symbolize even the longest life of mere man upon the earth.

But, in the case of the Christian, is any life unfinished? We may not forget here that our present existence is the root from which our immortality will spring, and that which seems unfinished here will be perfected above. I read of a gentleman, not so very long ago, that was wandering up the side of a mountain when he came in sight of a monument in the shape of a tall pillar, which crowned the summit, he resolved to go and examine it, but as he ascended, the mists came down; and when he came to the base of the shaft, he could read the inscriptions on the pedestal but the top was concealed from his eyes by the clouds. So I think it is in a case like this. The pillar is not broken; but its finished capital is concealed from our eyes by the misty veil that hides the future from the present, and when that is removed we shall see, not only that the shaft is unbroken, but that the symmetry and beauty of the top are in

perfect keeping with its earthly foundations.

I am aware, indeed, that so far as we have any knowledge of heaven, we may say that it is certain that there shall not be there the same relationships and occupations we have here; but there is no doubt that there shall be need there for the quality of character which were developed by our training and experience here, and we shall there understand, as we cannot here, not only why we were each brought, through his own personal history, but also why our dear ones were taken from us at the time they were. The Lord had need of them just then, and their removal was necessary, not only to the symmetry, but to the finish of their immortal excellence.

Sometimes, again, when we are brought face to face with a dispensation like this we are disturbed by the mystery of the question, why there was so much promise in a young life that comes, to human view, to no maturity? We cannot answer that question fully, but we can point to a parallel mystery which the contrast might have seemed yet greater, and by the contemplation of which we may be consoled. We cannot forget here that our Savior Himself died while yet He was but a young man. For four thousand years, from the date of the primal prophecy, preparations were being made for His appearance. The whole mosaic system and the entire history of the Jews was in order to His manifestation. One would have thought, therefore, that when He came His life would have been greatly prolonged. But instead, He died at the age of thirty-three, after little more than three years of public life. What a poor outcome for such preparations, one might say, speaking after the manner of men; but now recalling His resurrection and ascension, behold what that life has done for humanity, and with the history of the eighteen centuries behind us, who dare say that the result has not been worthy of the preparation?

Now I know that is a peculiar case, but still the dead in Christ have a participation in the ascension life of Christ, and no matter how brief the earthly existence may have been, no Christian life has ever been in vain.

There have been influences we may be sure on the companions of this beloved, which shall tell many days hence and in the outcome of which she will live anew. And there will be influences on those to whom she was dearest, which will effect them all their days. The words of the poet were true to whom he wrote in similar sorrow to this:

God gives us love; something to love;
He leads; then when love is grown
To ripeness, that on which it thrives
Falls off, and love is left alone.

There has been left by this young life a deposit of blessing on the part of every member of her household, and in the fertility which that will give to their after lives, she will still be operative in the world. This is a true personal character also, but I cannot forbear from adding, for the sake of those friends, that it will be true of all their intercourse with whom they associate.

Ezekiel was made a sign to the people to whom he was sent, by the loss of his wife when "the desire of his eyes was cut off by a stroke;" and through the personal discipline of his children. Yet, God often begins to give a special blessing to the people. It is a terrible ordeal, yet when souls are born again through it and saints are built up as the result, we may see a little of the purpose of God in our trial. This trial will give, I am sure, new power and pathos to my friends. So it comes that those darkest experiences bloom up into higher usefulness. "Out of the eater comes forth meat; and out of the bitter, sweetness."

Why Work in the Dark?

A housekeeper, who ignores the fact that cooking in all its branches is making long strides, might as well shut out the light of day from her kitchen and try to prepare her meals in the dark. How much there is to learn in the very rudiments of cooking, especially pastry cooking, will be shown Monday afternoon and Tuesday at Putney & Chamberlain's store, where a scientific pastry cook is demonstrating the value to every household of None Such food specialties. It is scientific cooking, to be sure, and of pastry cooking exclusively, but at the same time it is simplicity itself. Beginners and experts can learn something at these demonstrations. They are free.

The Ideal Entertainment Co.
This entertainment is to be given at Central Hall Tuesday evening, April 10, by the Ideal Entertainment Company, which is undoubtedly going to be one of the finest that has ever visited our village.

We draw our conclusions from the most flattering press notices they play. For instance, the Daily News, of Saginaw, recently devoted a third of a column on its editorial page to describing this entertainment given the previous evening, declaring it to be one of the most novel and interesting entertainments that has ever visited that city. We have also seen a letter written by one opera house manager to another, in which he refers to the entertainment as follows: "They showed here last night to a full house; the best show of the kind that has ever been here."

This same company went through this part of the state last season, giving excellent satisfaction. This season they are out with an entire change of program, and are offering more than ever before. Reserved seats on sale at H. C. Martin's store, April 9 and 10.

To Cure La Grippe in 24 Hours.
No remedy equals WARNER'S WHITE WINE OF TAR SYRUP for this terrible and fatal disease. If taken thoroughly and in time, it will cure a case in 24 hours, and for the cough that follows La Grippe it never fails to give relief. Price, 25c and 50c. Staley & McKeith.

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And are you puzzled about the Menu? Then go to Beard's and he will help you out. There you will find Groceries, Fruits, fresh and dried, Canned Goods, Vegetables and all other articles which enter into a delicate and substantial menu.

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What Are Your Fence Plans?

Do you expect to put up a fence this year? If so let us suggest wire fencing.

It looks well and is easily put up. It wears well and is not expensive.

There's a difference in different wire fencing, however. Some is good and some is not. We keep the good kind and if you want to know that you get the best, come to us.

NAILS to put it up with.
HAMMERS to drive the nails.

FOX & ROUNDS,

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Necessity in Price.

Nickleplated flat-iron per set.....\$ 89	Spectacles just your fit..... 25
Tin wash boiler, copper bottom..... 75	(Eyes tested free of charge)
Galvanized wash boiler..... 78	Fancy blue and white bed spread 1 00
Tin tea kettle..... 29	White bed spread sold at..... 69
Heavy felt window shades each..... 10	" " " " " 1 75 for 1 25
Lace curtain poles 2 for..... 25	Ladies' black hose sold at..... 15 for 10
Extra heavy dairy pail..... 22	Good corset..... 39 for 25
Chair bottom with nails..... 10	" " " " " 49 for 39
Milk pan extra heavy..... 84 and 96	" " " " " 59 for 49
Wash bowl and pitcher..... 69	" " " " " 75 for 69
9-inch dinner plates, best ware..... 16 1/2	Large steel fry pan " " 25 for 12
Bowls large, 3 for..... 25	Boys' medium weight iron clad hose 12
Nappies all sizes..... 5-10-15	Key chain with ring, sold at 10c for 04
4-piece table sets..... 25-50-75 1 20	17-qt galvanized dish pan..... 30
Hand lamp, a nice one..... 22	Small telescope case..... 40
Men's braces sold at 16 for..... 10	Steel bit 4-16, warranted..... 10
Good black wool socks..... 15	" " 7-16 " " 15
Nice line belt buckles, choice..... 25	" " 9-16 " " 15
1 lot of 25c horse whips, choice..... 10	" " 12-12 " " 20
Nickleplated tea or coffee pot..... 50	" " 16-16 " " 25
Men's large red Hdk's 2 for..... 05	Warranted razor..... \$1 25
Ladies' fine linen Hdk's..... 05	For poor stuff go elsewhere.
Good machine thread..... 30	

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Laces are more fashionable this season than usual. Realizing this fact we were in the market early and have one of the finest lines of.....

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